SUPREME COURT OF	THE STATE	OF	NEW	YORE	<
COUNTY OF BRONX					

Index No. 309393-2011 Purchased 10-21-11

RAYMOND DELPINO AND KESHANA SIMMONS,

Plaintiff,

-against-

VERIFIED AMENDED COMPLAINT

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122,

Detendants	
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RAYMOND DELPINO AND KESHANA SIMMONS, by their attorneys, PAPA, DEPAOLA AND BROUNSTEIN, respectfully alleges as follows:

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 1. At all times mentioned, Plaintiff **RAYMOND DELPINO** was a resident of Bronx County, City and State of New York.
- 2. At all times mentioned, Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, was and is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
- 3. On or about the 19th day of August, 2011 and within ninety (90)days after the claim herein arose, the Plaintiff served a Notice of Claim in writing sworn to on their behalf upon the Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, by delivering a copy thereof in duplicate to the officer designated to receive such process personally, which Notice of Claim advised the Defendant CITY OF NEW

- YORK, of the nature, place, time and manner in which the claim arose, the items of damage and injuries sustained so far as was then determinable.
- 4. At least thirty (30) days have elapsed since the service of the claim prior to the commencement of this action and adjustment of payment thereof has been neglected or refused, and this action has been commenced within one year and ninety (90) days after the happening of the event upon which the claims are based.
- 5. The Plaintiff has complied with the request of the municipal Defendant's for an oral examination pursuant to Section 50-H of the General Municipal Law and/or the Public Authorities Law and/or no such request was made within the applicable period.
- OPEN YORK.

 Upon information and belief, at all times mentioned, Defendants NEW

 YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th

 PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11

 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122, were and are police officers of the

 Defendant City of New York, and at all times herein were acting in such

 capacity as the agents, servants and employees of the Defendant, THE CITY

 OF NEW YORK.
- 7. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants jointly and severally in their capacity as police officers, wrongfully touched, grabbed, handcuffed and seized the Plaintiff RAYMOND DELPINO, in an excessive manner about his person, causing him physical pain and mental suffering. At no time did the Defendants have legal cause to grab, handcuff

seize or touch the Plaintiff, nor did the Plaintiff consent to this illegal touching nor was it privileged by law.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 8. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "7" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 9. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally did place Plaintiff RAYMOND DELPINO in imminent fear of physical contact by approaching the Plaintiff with their loaded firearms, outstretched limbs and other objects which they used to physically seize, strike and restrain the Plaintiff. All of the above actions placed the Plaintiff in imminent fear of physical contact. At no time did the Plaintiff consent to the unlawful actions of the Defendants.

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

- 10. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "9" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 11. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally without any warrant, order or other legal process and without any legal right, wrongfully and unlawfully arrested the Plaintiff, restrained him and his liberty and then took him into custody to a police station in the County of the Bronx and there charged him with the crimes on

Docket No. 2011BX042122. The Plaintiff was thereafter held in custody over the course of approximately two (2) days until he was released on his own recognizance. The Defendants intentionally confined the Plaintiff without his consent and the confinement was not otherwise privileged by law and, at all times, the Plaintiff was conscious of his confinement.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 12. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "11" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 13. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally without any valid warrant, order or other legal process and without any legal right, wrongfully and unlawfully imprisoned the Plaintiff, restrained him and his liberty and then took him into custody and causing him to be incarcerated as a detainee in the City of New York's Correctional Facility. The Plaintiff was thereafter held in custody over the course of approximately two (2) days before he was released. The Defendants intentionally confined the Plaintiff without his consent and the confinement was not otherwise privileged by law and, at all times, the Plaintiff was conscious of his confinement.

AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

14. Plaintiff incorporates, repeats, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "13" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.

- Upon information and belief, on or about July 27, 2011 and from that time until the dismissal of charges on or about July 28, 2011 which was a favorable termination for the accused by the Honorable Judge presiding at, Bronx County Supreme Court, Defendants NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122, deliberately and maliciously prosecuted Plaintiff RAYMOND DELPINO, an innocent man without any probable cause whatsoever, by filing or causing a criminal court complaint to be filed in the Criminal Court of the City of New York, Bronx County, for the purpose of falsely accusing the plaintiff of violations of the criminal laws of the State of New York.
- 16. The Defendants, jointly and severally, their agents, servants or employees failed to take reasonable steps to stop the prosecution of the Plaintiff and instead maliciously and deliberately provided false and/or incomplete information to the District Attorney's office to induce prosecution of the Plaintiff and due to the absence of probable cause malice can be inferred.
- 17. The commencement of these criminal proceedings under Docket No.
 2011BX042122 was malicious and began in malice and without probable
 cause, so that the proceedings could succeed by the Defendants.
- 18. As a result of the malicious prosecution, Plaintiff was deprived of his liberty and suffered the humiliation, mental anguish, indignity and frustration of an unjust criminal prosecution. The Plaintiff made multiple court appearances to defend his liberty against these unjust charges.

AS AND FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 19. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in paragraphs "1" through "18" as it set forth at length herein.
- 20. Defendants NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER
 VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S
 PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122 were at all times
 relevant, duly appointed and acting officers of the City of New York Police
 Department.
- 21. At all times mentioned herein, said police officers were acting under color of law, to wit: the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies and customs and usage of the State of New York and/or City of New York.
- 22. Plaintiff **RAYMOND DELPINO** is and at all times relevant herein, a citizen of the United States and a resident of Bronx County in the State of New York and brings this cause of action pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1983 and 42 United States Code, Section 1988.
- 23. The Defendant **CITY OF NEW YORK** is a municipality duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York.
- 24. On or about July 27, 2011 the Defendants, armed police, while effectuating the seizure of the Plaintiff SHANIQUA GIST, did search, seize, assault and commit a battery and grab the person of the Plaintiff without a court authorized arrest or search warrant. They did physically seize the person of the Plaintiff during the arrest process in an unlawful and excessive manner.

- The Plaintiff was falsely arrested, unlawfully imprisoned and maliciously prosecuted without the Defendants possessing probable cause to do so.
- 25. The above action of the Defendants resulted in the Plaintiff being deprived of the following rights under the United States Constitution:
 - a. Freedom from assault to his person;
 - b. Freedom from battery to his person;
 - c. Freedom from illegal search and seizure;
 - d. Freedom from false arrest;
 - e. Freedom from malicious prosecution;
 - f. Freedom from the use of excessive force during the arrest process;
 - g. Freedom from unlawful imprisonment.
- 26. The Defendants subjected the Plaintiff to such deprivations, either in a malicious or reckless disregard of the Plaintiff's rights or with deliberate indifference to those rights used the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.
- 27. The direct and proximate result of the Defendants' acts are that the Plaintiff has suffered severe and permanent injuries of a psychological nature. He was forced to endure pain and suffering, all to his detriment.

AS AND FOR A SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates, repeats and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "27" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 29. Defendant **CITY OF NEW YORK** has grossly failed to train and adequately supervise its police officers in the fundamental law of arrest, search and

seizure especially when its police officers are not in possession of a court authorized arrest warrant and where an individual, especially as here, has not committed a crime and has not resisted arrest, that its police officers should only use reasonable force to effectuate an arrest and the arrest should be based on probable cause.

- 30. THE CITY OF NEW YORK was negligent by failing to implement a policy with its Police Department and instruct police officers who, absent the consent of the Plaintiff (or similarly situated individuals) or without the possession of a court authorized arrest a search warrant, said police officers of the City of New York are not to arrest individuals such as the Plaintiff here where probable cause is lacking and the use of force should only be reasonable when an individual resists arrest and should not he used where a criminal defendant is not resisting arrest.
- 31. THE CITY OF NEW YORK is negligent due to its failure to implement a policy with its Police Department or actively enforce the law, if any of the following are lacking:
 - Probable cause must be present before an individual such as the
 Plaintiff herein can be arrested.
 - Excessive force cannot be used against an individual who does not physically resist arrest.
 - An individual who sustains physical injury at the hands of the police during the arrest process should receive prompt medical attention.
- 32. The foregoing acts, omissions and systemic failures are customs and policies of the CITY OF NEW YORK which caused the police officers to falsely

arrest, maliciously prosecute, seize illegally and search the Plaintiff commit an assault/battery to his person and denied him prompt medical attention under the belief that they would suffer no disciplinary actions for their failure to take proper or prudent steps in this case.

AS AND FOR AN EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 33. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in paragraphs "1" through "32" as it set forth at length herein.
- 34. Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK was negligent in that prior to and at the time of the acts complained of herein, due to the prior history of the Police Officer Defendants, knew or should have known of the bad disposition of said Defendants or had knowledge of facts that would put a reasonably prudent employer on inquiry concerning their bad disposition and the fact that these officers were not suitable to be hired and employed by the CITY OF NEW YORK and that due to their lack of training, these officers should have had adequate supervision so that they would not arrest innocent individuals nor use excessive force during the arrest process.

AS AND FOR A NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 35. At all times mentioned, Plaintiff KESHANA SIMMONS was a resident of Broward County, State of Florida.
- 36. At all times mentioned, Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, was and is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of New York.
- 37. On or about the 8th day of June, 2012 and within ninety (90)days after the claim herein arose, the Plaintiff served a Notice of Claim in writing sworn to

- on their behalf upon the Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, by delivering a copy thereof in duplicate to the officer designated to receive such process personally, which Notice of Claim advised the Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK, of the nature, place, time and manner in which the claim arose, the items of damage and injuries sustained so far as was then determinable.
- 38. At least thirty (30) days have elapsed since the service of the claim prior to the commencement of this action and adjustment of payment thereof has been neglected or refused, and this action has been commenced within one year and ninety (90) days after the happening of the event upon which the claims are based.
- 39. The Plaintiff has complied with the request of the municipal Defendant's for an oral examination pursuant to Section 50-H of the General Municipal Law and/or the Public Authorities Law and/or no such request was made within the applicable period.
- 40. Upon information and belief, at all times mentioned, Defendants NEW
 YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th
 PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11
 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122, were and are police officers of the
 Defendant City of New York, and at all times herein were acting in such
 capacity as the agents, servants and employees of the Defendant, THE CITY
 OF NEW YORK.
- 41. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants jointly and severally in their capacity as police officers, wrongfully touched,

grabbed, handcuffed and seized the Plaintiff **KESHANA SIMMONS**, in an excessive manner about her person, causing her physical pain and mental suffering. At no time did the Defendants have legal cause to grab, handcuff seize or touch the Plaintiff, nor did the Plaintiff consent to this illegal touching nor was it privileged by law.

AS AND FOR A TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 42. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "41" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 43. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally did place **KESHANA SIMMONS** in imminent fear of physical contact by approaching the Plaintiff with their loaded firearms, outstretched limbs and other objects which they used to physically seize, strike and restrain the Plaintiff. All of the above actions placed the Plaintiff in imminent fear of physical contact. At no time did the Plaintiff consent to the unlawful actions of the Defendants.

AS AND FOR AN ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 44. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "43" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 45. On or about July 27, 2011, at approximately 6:49 P.M. in the vicinity of 251 Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally without any warrant, order or other legal process and

without any legal right, wrongfully and unlawfully arrested the Plaintiff, restrained her and her liberty and then took her into custody to a police station in the County of the Bronx and there charged her with the crimes on Docket No. 2011BX042121. The Plaintiff was thereafter held in custody over the course of approximately two (2) days until she was released on her own recognizance. The Defendants intentionally confined the Plaintiff without her consent and the confinement was not otherwise privileged by law and, at all times, the Plaintiff was conscious of her confinement.

AS AND FOR A TWELFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 46. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "45" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- Mount Hope Place, County of Bronx, State of New York the Defendants, jointly and severally without any valid warrant, order or other legal process and without any legal right, wrongfully and unlawfully imprisoned the Plaintiff, restrained her and her liberty and then took her into custody and causing her to be incarcerated as a detainee in the City of New York's Correctional Facility. The Plaintiff was thereafter held in custody over the course of approximately two (2) days before she was released. The Defendants intentionally confined the Plaintiff without her consent and the confinement was not otherwise privileged by law and, at all times, the Plaintiff was conscious of her confinement.

AS AND FOR A THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 48. Plaintiff incorporates, repeats, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "47" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.
- 49. Upon information and belief, on or about July 27, 2011 and from that time until the dismissal of charges on or about January 30, 2012 which was a favorable termination for the accused by the Honorable Judge presiding at, Bronx County Supreme Court, Defendants NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122, deliberately and maliciously prosecuted Plaintiff KESHANA SIMMONS, an innocent woman without any probable cause whatsoever, by filing or causing a criminal court complaint to be filed in the Criminal Court of the City of New York, Bronx County, for the purpose of falsely accusing the plaintiff of violations of the criminal laws of the State of New York.
- 50. The Defendants, jointly and severally, their agents, servants or employees failed to take reasonable steps to stop the prosecution of the Plaintiff and instead maliciously and deliberately provided false and/or incomplete information to the District Attorney's office to induce prosecution of the Plaintiff and due to the absence of probable cause malice can be inferred.
- 51. The commencement of these criminal proceedings under Docket No.
 2011BX042121 was malicious and began in malice and without probable cause, so that the proceedings could succeed by the Defendants.

As a result of the malicious prosecution, Plaintiff was deprived of her liberty and suffered the humiliation, mental anguish, indignity and frustration of an unjust criminal prosecution. The Plaintiff made multiple court appearances to defend her liberty against these unjust charges.

AS AND FOR A FOURTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in paragraphs "1" through "18" as it set forth at length herein.
- 54. Defendants NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER

 VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S

 PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122 were at all times relevant, duly appointed and acting officers of the City of New York Police Department.
- At all times mentioned herein, said police officers were acting under color of law, to wit: the statutes, ordinances, regulations, policies and customs and usage of the State of New York and/or City of New York.
- 56. Plaintiff **KESHANA SIMMONS** is and at all times relevant herein, a citizen of the United States and a resident of Broward County in the State of Florida and brings this cause of action pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1983 and 42 United States Code, Section 1988.
- 57. The Defendant **CITY OF NEW YORK** is a municipality duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York.
- On or about July 27, 2011 the Defendants, armed police, while effectuating the seizure of the Plaintiff **KESHANA SIMMONS**, did search, seize, assault and commit a battery and grab the person of the Plaintiff without a court

authorized arrest or search warrant. They did physically seize the person of the Plaintiff during the arrest process in an unlawful and excessive manner. The Plaintiff was falsely arrested, unlawfully imprisoned and maliciously prosecuted without the Defendants possessing probable cause to do so.

- 59. The above action of the Defendants resulted in the Plaintiff being deprived of the following rights under the United States Constitution:
 - a. Freedom from assault to her person;
 - b. Freedom from battery to her person;
 - c. Freedom from illegal search and seizure;
 - d. Freedom from false arrest;
 - e. Freedom from malicious prosecution;
 - f. Freedom from the use of excessive force during the arrest process;
 - g. Freedom from unlawful imprisonment.
- The Defendants subjected the Plaintiff to such deprivations, either in a malicious or reckless disregard of the Plaintiff's rights or with deliberate indifference to those rights used the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.
- 61. The direct and proximate result of the Defendants' acts are that the Plaintiff has suffered severe and permanent injuries of a psychological nature. He was forced to endure pain and suffering, all to his detriment.

AS AND FOR A FIFTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

62. Plaintiff incorporates, repeats and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in Paragraphs "1" through "61" with full force and effect as though set forth at length herein.

- Operation of the State of Stat
- of the City of New York are not to arrest individuals such as the Plaintiff here where probable cause is lacking and the use of force should only be reasonable when an individual resists arrest and should not he used where a criminal defendant is not resisting arrest.
- 65. THE CITY OF NEW YORK is negligent due to its failure to implement a policy with its Police Department or actively enforce the law, if any of the following are lacking:
 - Probable cause must be present before an individual such as the
 Plaintiff herein can he arrested.
 - 2. Excessive force cannot be used against an individual who does not physically resist arrest.
 - 3. An individual who sustains physical injury at the hands of the police during the arrest process should receive prompt medical attention.

of the CITY OF NEW YORK which caused the police officers to falsely arrest, maliciously prosecute, seize illegally and search the Plaintiff commit an assault/battery to his person and denied him prompt medical attention under the belief that they would suffer no disciplinary actions for their failure to take proper or prudent steps in this case.

AS AND FOR A SIXTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 67. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates, and re-alleges all of the allegations contained in paragraphs "1" through "66" as it set forth at length herein.
- Defendant CITY OF NEW YORK was negligent in that prior to and at the time of the acts complained of herein, due to the prior history of the Police Officer Defendants, knew or should have known of the bad disposition of said Defendants or had knowledge of facts that would put a reasonably prudent employer on inquiry concerning their bad disposition and the fact that these officers were not suitable to be hired and employed by the CITY OF NEW YORK and that due to their lack of training, these officers should have had adequate supervision so that they would not arrest innocent individuals nor use excessive force during the arrest process.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendants, together with the costs and disbursements of this action in the amount of damages greater than the jurisdictional limit of any lower court where otherwise have jurisdiction, together with attorneys' fees and costs for bringing this case and punitive damages.

Dated:

Bayside, New York

August 7, 2012

Yours, etc.

PAPA DEPAOLA AND BROUNSTEIN

BY///JOHN K. KOUROUPAS

Attorneys for Plaintiff

42-40 Bell Boulevard Suite 500

Bayside, New York 11361

(718) 281-4000

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF BRONX	Index No. 309393-2011 Purchased 10-21-11	
RAYMOND DELPINO AND KESHANA SIMMONS,	r urchased 10-21-11	
Plaintiffs,	VERIFICATION	
-against-		
THE CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46 th PCT., SHIELD #03957 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122,		
Defendants		

I, JOHN K. KOUROUPAS, an attorney admitted to practice in the courts of New York State, state that I am a member of the firm of PAPA, DEPAOLA AND BROUNSTEIN, the attorneys of record for Plaintiffs in the within action; I have read the foregoing and know the contents thereof; the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe it to be true. The reason this verification is made by me and not by Plaintiff is because Plaintiff resides outside the county where deponent maintains his office.

I affirm that the foregoing statements are true, under the penalties of perjury.

Dated:

Bayside, New York August 7, 2012

JØMN K. KOUROUPAS

FILED Aug 09 2012 Bronx County Clerk Index No.: 309393-2011 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF BRONX RAYMOND DELPINO AND KESHANA SIMMONS, Plaintiffs, -against-THE CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER VACCARO OF THE 46th PCT., SHIELD #3958 AND P.O. VACCARO'S PARTNER ON 7-27-11 UNDER DOCKET #2011BX042122 **Defendants** SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND VERIFIED AMENDED COMPLAINT PAPA DEPAOLA AND BROUNSTEIN BY: JOHN R. DEPAOLA Attorney for Plaintiffs 42-40 Bell Boulevard Bayside, NY 11361 Tel. (718) 281-4000 To: CORPORATION COUNSEL OF NEW YORK CITY

Attorney(s)for Defendants

Dated

Attorney(s) for

Service of a copy of the within is hereby admitted.